

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

GB2004/001110

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61B17/16

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61B A61F B23B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages  | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| Y          | EP 0 782 840 A (PRECIFAR SA)<br>9 July 1997 (1997-07-09)<br>the whole document  | 1-8                   |
| Y          | US 4 023 572 A (BELLMANN BERNHARD ET AL)<br>17 May 1977 (1977-05-17)<br>column 9, line 58 - column 10, line 41<br>column 11, line 7 - column 12, line 2<br>column 18, line 65 - column 19, line 58<br>figures 17, 20, 39-41 | 1-8                   |
| A          | US 6 264 647 B1 (LECHOT ANDR EACUTE)<br>24 July 2001 (2001-07-24)<br>the whole document   | 1-8                   |
| A          | US 2002/099380 A1 (SALYER PAUL E ET AL)<br>25 July 2002 (2002-07-25)<br>the whole document  | 1-8                   |
|            | -----<br>-/--<br>-----  |                       |



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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\*&\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 July 2004

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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| A          | US 5 018 266 A (HUTCHINSON JAMES ET AL)<br>28 May 1991 (1991-05-28)<br>column 6, line 56 - line 65<br>figure 2            | 1,5,6,8               |
| A          | US 4 906 147 A (FRIESINGER JULIUS ET AL)<br>6 March 1990 (1990-03-06)<br>column 2, line 61 - column 3, line 11<br>figures | 1,5,6,8               |

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Information on patent family members

GB2004/001110

| Patent document<br>cited in search report |    | Publication<br>date | Patent family<br>member(s) | Publication<br>date |
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